## Response to Comments

2017 Quartz Nomination Project EA December 2018

Stokes, Chip -FS 2/1/2019

**Comment #1:** The proposed projects are between approximately five and ten miles from our facility. Use of disrupting extraction methods will disturb our spring water supply and consequently our business. This is not conjecture; we know this to be accurate because it occurred in the past. We are objecting to the use of any type of explosives, detonating materials, or any other disrupting extraction methods as they will disturb our subterranean water resources. My understanding is a mining permit can be issued where the quartz crystals are hand mined. We do not object to this activity.

**Request for change to EA**: Adding language to prohibit the use of any type of explosives, detonating materials, or any other disrupting extraction methods as they will disturb our subterranean water resources.

**Forest Service Response:** These mines are located more than three miles outside of the well head protection area for the Alexa Springs Water Company. There is no reason to conclude that the use of explosives at this distance would disturb the water supply.

Request for changes considered – no changes made.